Saskatchewan Learning

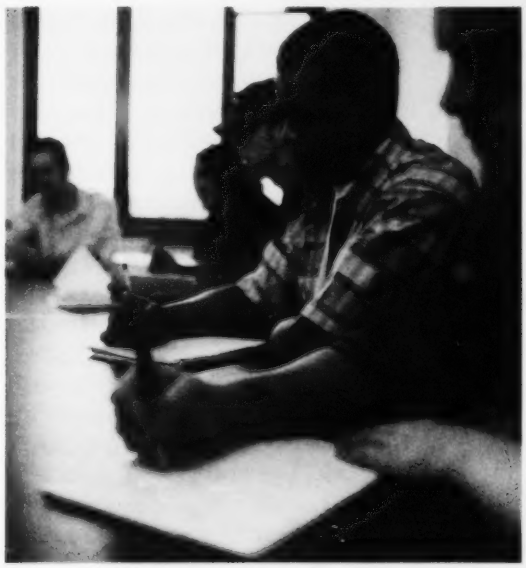
ON CURRICULUM

In This Issue ...

On Curriculum is a publication of the Curriculum and Instruction Branch and the Languages, Culture and Community Branch of Saskatchewan Learning. This newsletter is designed to keep educators and others informed about curriculum developments and related activities. Therefore, information has also been included from the Official Minority Language Office, the Correspondence School, and the Aboriginal Education Unit. Additional copies of this newsletter can be obtained by e-mailing *hliski@sasked.gov.sk.ca*.

In this issue, developments will be highlighted in the following areas:

- Common Essential Learnings Renewal
- Curriculum Development
- Resources.



Common Essential Learnings Renewal

The renewal of the objectives related to the Common Essential Learnings (CELS) of Critical and Creative Thinking (CCT) and Personal and Social Values and Skills was undertaken together so that they might inform and strengthen each other in intentional and well thought-out ways.

As a result of the reading, reflection, and dialogue with the provincial CELs Renewal Reference Committee and the internal department program team that marked the renewal process, some key changes were made. These changes include:

- Personal and Social Values and Skills is renamed as Personal and Social Development (PSD) to better reflect the developmental nature of emotional, social, and spiritual education.
- A Spiritual Development component has been delineated within PSD to support teachers in responding to the goal of education in this area in a way that is consistent with the democratic and multicultural nature of Saskatchewan society.
- A third strand was developed – that of integrated CCT and PSD – to more explicitly reflect the overlap and interconnections between many of the objectives in these two areas of education. For example, moral reasoning is based both in the development of particular values and virtues, and in processes of critical reflection.
- Emphasis on environmental awareness and ecological principles and values is increased. Objectives to reflect this emphasis are incorporated into PSD and the Integrated strand.
- More attention is given to the development of creative abilities and a focus on the importance of contextualizing thinking is incorporated into critical thinking objectives.
- The learning objectives in the three areas of CCT, PSD, and Integrated CCT and PSD are detailed and extensive but designed in such a way that several objectives can be addressed within one lesson and many objectives from all three areas in a single unit.
- Instructional guidelines, sample activities, and annotated resource lists accompany the objectives for each area to support schools and school divisions in planning and implementation.

- The achievement of objectives is not designed to be the sole responsibility of classroom teachers within their lessons but rather school staffs working with students, parents/caregivers, and community members. Objectives can be incorporated within school routines, relationships, assemblies, extra-curricular activities, and possibilities for learning in the community.

These renewed objectives are intended to complement the philosophical underpinnings introduced in *Understanding the Common Essential Learnings: A Handbook for Teachers* (1988). The renewed objectives will be introduced through dialogue during the 2005-06 school year and subsequent years. Please contact the regional office of Saskatchewan Learning if your school division is interested in engaging in this dialogue process in 2005-06.

Curriculum Development

Arts Education

Curriculum Renewal

Regional workshops begin in fall 2005 to support implementation of the renewed *Arts Education: A Curriculum Guide for the Elementary Level (K-5)* (2005).

Teacher leaders from each school division will participate in two-day Awareness Workshops preparing to deliver inservice to teachers within their respective school divisions.

The Awareness Workshops (Day One) will include an overview of the curriculum guide and key components of an effective Arts Education program.

In the fall of 2006, these same K-5 teacher leaders will be provided with inservice to deliver Exploration Workshops (Day Two). Saskatchewan Learning will continue to support K-5 teacher leaders for four years.

The renewed curriculum includes sample units with detailed lesson plans and related resources. Renewal of the grades 6-9 Arts Education curriculum guide continues during 2005-2006.

Provincial ArtsSmarts Program

ArtsSmarts Saskatchewan is a grant program that provides up to $7,500 for an Arts Education project that includes three partners: a school, a professional artist, and a community group.

The ArtsSmarts program is administered by the Saskatchewan Arts Board, and is funded by the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation and the ArtsSmarts Saskatchewan partners including Saskatchewan Learning.

Some ArtsSmarts program goals are to:

- build long-term, local partnerships that link young people, artists/arts organizations, schools, and the broader community
- encourage innovation in the development of arts education partnerships at the community level
- support and facilitate young peoples' access to, and participation in, the arts
- provide support for teachers implementing arts education curricula in their classrooms
- provide professional development for community arts groups that may, in future, work with classrooms or schools.

The deadline for ArtsSmarts grant applications is November 1, 2005. To obtain application forms and guidelines, and to view a list of the 2004 grant recipients, visit the grants section of the Saskatchewan Arts Board's website at *www.artsboard.sk.ca*.

If located in Saskatoon, visit the Saskatoon Foundation ArtsSmarts grants section of the website at *www.thesaskatoonfoundation.ca*.

Resident Artists-in-Schools

The Saskatchewan Arts Board, Saskatchewan Learning, and four school divisions continue to collaborate on Resident Artists-in-Schools Pilots.

Through the Artists-in-Schools program, a professional artist from the visual, performing, literary, or multidisciplinary arts is hired to be a resident within a school division for ten months of the year. The artist spends half the time working with students and teachers and the other half on his/her own work.

The program's intention is to assist schools and communities in achieving the School^{PLUS} vision by connecting students and teachers

with the province's exciting cultural and artistic environment to support students in achieving arts education objectives.

Participating school divisions report that the ArtsSmarts and Artists-in-Schools program have broadened students', teachers', and artists' experiences by bringing schools and community together to enhance the learning program.

If you have questions about any of the above-mentioned items, please contact the Arts Education Consultant, Lynda Oliver, at 787-6090 or *loliver@sasked.gov.sk.ca*.

English Language Arts

Early Literacy

Early Literacy: A Resource for Teachers (2000) provides teachers with assessment tools to determine readiness and instructional strategies to address students' needs at the emerging and early developing phases of literacy. To support this resource, Saskatchewan Learning offers workshops in each region of the province to help teachers and preschool and human services sector personnel address specific areas and issues of language development. If your school division is interested in professional development opportunities related to this resource, please contact the regional office of Saskatchewan Learning.

Elementary Level

An effective English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum is essential for preparing students for learning, life, and work. Feedback collected over the past five years from teachers across Saskatchewan indicates that the renewed *English Language Arts: A Curriculum Guide for the Elementary Level (K-5)* (2002) helps them to:

- plan a balanced ELA program that addresses all six language strands (listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, representing) as well as the language cueing systems and their conventions
- identify clear and specific learning objectives for each grade level
- ensure units and lessons are purposeful and planned to achieve those objectives
- link assessment, evaluation, and reporting to objectives.

To help teachers use the renewed Elementary Level English language arts curriculum, professional development support is available at the school division level.

Awareness modules give an overview of a balanced ELA program and the key understandings, strategies, and resources for an effective program.

Exploration modules focus on expanding the range of instructional strategies; connecting assessment, evaluation, and reporting; and attending to the language cueing systems and conventions.

Synthesis modules focus on listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, and representing objectives in a balanced English language arts program.

Refinement modules focus on developing and refining units and instructional strategies in keeping with Core Curriculum.

To support teachers in the "actualization" of the Elementary English language arts curriculum, a listing of student and professional resources are available in:

- *English Language Arts: A Bibliography for the Elementary Level (K-5)* (September 2001)
- Annual resource updates for 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005
- *A Selective Listing of Learning Resources 2005*.

Middle Level

The renewed Middle Level English language arts curriculum guide and accompanying bibliography will be available during the 2005-2006 school year. The curriculum guide focuses on a balanced and well-planned ELA program that attends to oral, written, and other communication skills and strategies as well as meaningful language study.

The renewed curriculum encourages teachers to model explicit strategies that can be used by Middle Level students to achieve objectives for their grade level.

Initial feedback from focus groups and committees note that the renewed curriculum guide:

- *is concise but comprehensive*
- *provides clear grade-by-grade objectives and a useful scope and sequence*
- *povides complete sample year plans and model units that clearly support the stated purpose and objectives for each grade level.*

Professional development will be provided at the provincial and local level to help Middle Level teachers learn about the renewed curriculum, resources, and supporting projects.

Secondary Level

Secondary Level students are required to complete five compulsory credits in the English

language arts. Each credit course has been developed to provide students with an appropriate balance of listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, and representing experiences. The objectives and the content for each course is outlined in *English Language Arts (ELA): A Curriculum Guide for the Secondary Level (ELA A10, B10, 20, A30, B30)* (1999).

Schools are encouraged to offer as many of the English language arts elective courses as possible. The objectives and language concepts are outlined in the following curricula:

- *Communication Studies 20* (March 1998)
- *Creative Writing 20* (April 1998)
- *Journalism Studies 20* (April 1998)
- *Media Studies 20* (April 1998).

Recommended resources for the Secondary Level language arts courses are listed in the accompanying bibliographies and updates:

- *English Language Arts 10: A Bibliography for the Secondary Level* (April 1997)
- *English Language Arts 20: A Bibliography for the Secondary Level* (June 1998)
- *English Language Arts 30: A Bibliography for the Secondary Level* (July 1999)
- *Learning Resource Updates* (2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005).

ELA A30 and B30 teachers are encouraged to refer to two additional resources:

- *Sample Listening Activities and Assessment: English Language Arts A30, B30* (Saskatchewan Education, August 1999)
- *Sundog Highway: Writing from Saskatchewan* (Coteau Books, 2000).

Print copies of all curriculum guides, bibliographies, and the listening package for the 30 Level are available from the Saskatchewan Learning Curriculum Distribution Service (787-5987), 4635 Wascana Parkway, Box 650, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3A3.

An additional resource has been prepared to support the teaching of the representing and viewing strands in Secondary Level English language arts. This new resource can be accessed by visiting the Saskatchewan Learning website at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/evergreen/elarts.shtml*.

Teachers can also find the online title search for ELA 10-30 at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/cgi-bin/bibs/bibsearch.cgi*.

Teachers preparing students for the ELA A30 and B30 provincial examinations should be aware of the policies outlined in the *Registrar's Handbook for School Administrators* and the *Departmental Examinations: Teacher Guide* (available online at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/prov_exams/prov_exams/deptexams.shtml)*. Teachers should review carefully the Tables of Specifications and prototype examinations for ELA A30 and B30 and attend one of the workshops held each fall. Prototype examinations are found on the Saskatchewan Learning website at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/prov_exams/prov_exams/prototype.shtml*. Teachers can contact Maxine Penner, (306) 787-2534, for more information on departmental examinations.

Teachers who have a new teaching assignment that includes Secondary Level ELA might wish to attend a curriculum awareness and exploration workshop on September

8, 2005 (Regina), September 9, 2005 (Saskatoon), or September 13, 2005 (LaRonge). Registration information and the workshop agenda are available from each regional office of Saskatchewan Learning.

Health Education

Elementary Level

The curriculum guide and support documents for Elementary Level health education include:

- *Health Education: A Curriculum Guide for the Elementary Level* (1998)
- *Health Education: A Bibliography for the Elementary Level* (1999)
- *Health Education: An Information Bulletin for Administrators (Grades 1-5)* (1998)
- *Learning Resource Update* (2000), (2001), (2002), (2003), (2004), (2005).

Mindful of busy teachers, 10 sample units are provided in the Elementary Level health education curriculum guide. See *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/docs/health/health1-5/*

index.html for the online versions of the units.

Locating digital resources, in addition to print and video resources, takes time. Curriculum linked websites via the Saskatchewan Learning URL Database provide free, teacher-evaluated resources. See *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/docs/health/health1-5/out.html#found* for numerous hot links to some of these resources in grades 1-5.

New teachers, or teachers new to health education, may be interested in the Health Education 1-5 Implementation Guide that is available online at: *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/docs/health/health1-5/implement/index.html*.

Middle Level

The curriculum guide and supporting documents for Middle Level health education include:

- *Health Education: A Curriculum Guide for the Middle Level* (1998)
- *Health Education: A Bibliography for the Middle Level (Grades 6-9)* (1998)
- *Supporting Health Education Renewal at the Middle Level: An Information Bulletin (Grades 6-9)* (1998)
- *Learning Resource Update* (2000), (2001), (2002), (2003), (2004), (2005).

Bullying, crystal meth, and sexual orientation are topics that have been in the media lately. See *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/evergreen/focus_main.shtml* to find out where anti-bullying, drug awareness (crystal meth), and sexual orientation and gender identity are addressed within Saskatchewan Learning health education curricula.

Curriculum linked websites via the Saskatchewan Learning URL Database provide free, teacher-evaluated resources that are recommended for Middle Level health education. See *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/docs/health/health6-9/index.html* and click on Grade Objectives for hot links to resources that support specific learning objectives.

The sample units available for each grade are as follows:

Grade 6 Sample Units (in curriculum)

- Decision-making Process
- Body Image and Nutrition
- HIV/AIDS Education: A Focus on Transmission and Safety

Other Grade 6 Sample Units

- Drug Addictions and Gambling: A Focus on Gambling
- Drug Addictions and Gambling: A Focus on Tobacco

Grade 7 Sample Units (in curriculum)

- Decision-making Process
- Assertiveness Skills
- HIV/AIDS Education: Signs/Symptoms, and Stages of HIV/AIDS

Other Grade 7 Sample Units

- Gambling

Grade 8 Sample Units (in curriculum)

- Decision-making Process
- Family Structures, Roles, and Responsibilities
- HIV/AIDS Education: Effects of AIDS on Families

Other Grade 8 Sample Units

- Gambling

Grade 9 Sample Units (in curriculum)

- Decision-making Process
- Tobacco Industry
- HIV/AIDS Education: Needs, Stigma, and Community Response

Other Grade 9 Sample Units

- Gambling
- Abstinence, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Pregnancy, and Contraception.

The "other sample units" listed above are available in your school. For more information, contact:

- Leanne Fischer at Saskatchewan Health (787-4094)
- the Health Promotion contact in your health region
- the Saskatchewan Prevention Institute (655-2512)
- Kyla Christiansen at Saskatchewan Learning (787-1999).

Secondary Level

Life Transitions

The curriculum guide and supporting documents for Life Transitions include:

- *Life Transitions 20, 30: A Curriculum Guide for the Secondary Level* (1996)
- *Life Transitions 20, 30: A Bibliography* (2003)
- *Life Transitions 20, 30: An Information Bulletin for Administrators* (1996)
- *Learning Resource Update* (2000), (2001), (2002), (2003), (2004), (2005).

The purpose of Life Transitions is to enable students to acquire and refine the knowledge, skills, and abilities to plan and enhance their personal health, family life, community life, and career development in order to effectively manage transitions throughout students' lives. Both Life Transitions 20 and 30 have five required modules and four optional

modules through which students attain these attitudes and skills.

Wellness 10

Wellness 10 integrates health education and physical education and consists of five required units totalling 100 hours of instruction. Workshops to orient teachers to the renewed Wellness 10 curriculum (2004) were conducted throughout the province during the past year. In 2005-06, Wellness 10 Orientation workshops will continue to be offered and Wellness 10 Unit/Lesson Planning workshops will be offered as well.

The renewed curriculum guide includes sample units and lesson plans. The Wellness 10 Unit/ Lesson Planning workshops provide opportunities for participants to use the decision-making process to plan units that are not included as sample units in the guide. Throughout the workshop, teachers practise making strong connections among learning objectives, instruction, and student assessment. An emphasis is placed on effectively weaving the five strands of Wellness 10 (physical activity and fitness, stress management, leisure, relationships, healthy eating) to enhance student learning.

To register for Wellness 10 Orientation and Unit/Lesson planning workshops, contact your regional Saskatchewan Learning office.

The *Selective Listing of Learning Resources* for Wellness 10 has been updated and the *Learning Resource Update* (2005) will be available this fall. Both of these documents can be accessed by visiting the Saskatchewan Learning website at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca*.

A print copy of *Supporting Wellness 10: An Information Bulletin for Administrators* (2004) has been mailed to administrators and is also available online at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/evergreen/wellness*. A document entitled *Accommodating All Students in Wellness 10* has also been added to the website. This document provides support for administrators, counsellors, teachers, parents, and health care providers as they plan to accommodate the special needs that some students may have when participating in physical activity.

Heritage Languages

Ukrainian

A major project of the Western and Northern Canadian Protocol International Languages Working Group was completed in March, 2005 with the production of the electronic document *Blackline Masters for Ukrainian Language Arts*. Graphic organizers, assessment plans, organizational charts, and other online instructional tools are included in the document, designed for use in both in-school and after-school Ukrainian language programs.

Development of a Saskatchewan Learning Ukrainian Education Portal was completed in early 2005. The portal contains information about language programs and their locations, current provincial enrolments, curricula, resources, and links to local, national, and international Ukrainian educational sites. The portal may be accessed using a direct link at *www.sesd.sk.ca/ukrainian/* or through the Saskatchewan Learning Languages, Culture and Community Branch website at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/lcc/ukrainian_languages.shtml*.

Saskatchewan Learning is pleased to announce the availability of the resource *Mova i Rozmova* in digital form. Teachers, students, parents, and community members may access program material, dialogues, and audio clips through the Ukrainian Education Portal to assist with language learning outside of regular classroom hours.

Kindergarten

The curriculum guide and support documents for Kindergarten include the following:

- *Children First: A Curriculum Guide for Kindergarten* (1994)
- *Children First: A Bibliography for Kindergarten* (1994)
- *Children First: An Information Bulletin for Administrators* (1994)
- *Learning Resource Update* (1995), (1996), (1998), (2000), (2001), (2002), (2003), (2004), (2005)
- Curriculum guides and accompanying bibliographies for all areas of study at the Elementary Level.

In the winter of 2005, Saskatchewan Learning conducted an early childhood education needs assessment for the purposes of informing the Kindergarten curriculum renewal process and determining how Saskatchewan Learning can effectively support developmentally appropriate early childhood education practices in all areas of study from Kindergarten to Grade 3. Ninety-six early childhood educators from a wide variety of school settings participated in this project. Following the analysis of this needs assessment, a summary of the results will be distributed to Directors of Education and Principals of Elementary Level schools.

Renewal of the Kindergarten curriculum based upon the needs

assessment analysis is scheduled to begin in the 2005-2006 school year.

Mathematics

In January of 2005, the Calculus 30 curriculum guide was released and distributed to schools. The guide is also available online at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/docs/calc30/*.

A Companion Resource for Grade 1 Mathematics and *A Companion Resource for Grade 2 Mathematics* will be available in 2005-06 and will be distributed to all Grade 1 and Grade 2 teachers. The documents can be accessed through the Mathematics Curriculum web page at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/evergreen/math.shtml*.

As with all curriculum guides and support materials, additional copies of the Calculus 30 curriculum and the Grade 1 and 2 Companion Resources can be purchased from the Curriculum Distribution Service. For more information go to *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/curriculum_distribution_service/* or call 787-5987.

All teachers of mathematics are encouraged to become members of one or more of the three Blackboard "Courses" designed to provide a forum for teachers to discuss issues regarding mathematics teaching, and to seek and share teaching ideas. Any teacher wishing to become a member of the K-5, 6-9, or 10-12 courses, please send your name and contact information to Gale Russell at *gale.russell@sasked.gov.sk.ca*.

The content-focused mathematics workshops are continuing to be offered throughout the province this upcoming year. School divisions interested in hosting any of the 12 workshops should contact the RSCI for their region for additional information. The current twelve workshops are:

Grades K-2
Place Value and Data Management
Money, Time, and Geometry
Numbers and Operations

Grades 3-5
Common Fractions
Multiplication
Geometry

Grades 6-9
Transformational Geometry
Subtraction of Fractions and Data Management Lines, Line Segments, Angles and Probability

Grades 10-12
Proof and Logical Development
Relations and Functions
Probability (includes grade 9).

Teachers, teacher librarians, and administrators are encouraged to check out the new resources listed in the *Learning Resource Materials Update 2005*. Mathematics resources are found in the Elementary Mathematics, Middle Mathematics, and Secondary Mathematics sections and include many different and pedagogically strong resources that include engaging student activities.

The renewal of the Elementary K-5 Mathematics curriculum will begin this fall to align with the revised Western and Northern Canadian Protocol curriculum framework of outcomes and to provide strong pedagogical support for developmentally appropriate mathematics instruction.

Physical Education

Physical education and health education are integrated at the Grade 10 level. Information about the renewed Wellness 10 curriculum is provided in the Health Education section of this newsletter.

The document *Saskatchewan Physical Education: Safety Guidelines for Policy Development*, sent to all school divisions in 1998, provides a model for school division policy development and implementation. It is available on Saskatchewan Learning's website: *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/docs/physed/safe/index.html*.

Saskatchewan Learning promotes physical activity through its active involvement in, and support of, initiatives such as Saskatchewan *in motion*, the Saskatchewan Physical Activity Council, and Quality Daily Physical Education. Saskatchewan *in motion* is a province-wide movement aimed at increasing physical activity for health benefits. A major goal of Saskatchewan *in motion* is that, by December 2005, 50% of Saskatchewan schools will be *in motion* schools. An *in motion* school is one that values the benefits of physical activity and

ensures that it is a visible priority in the daily life of the school. *In motion* schools are committed to the goal of a minimum of 30 minutes of physical activity every day for every student. This can be achieved through a combination of physical education, physical activity breaks, physical activity programs, intramurals, sports programs, and special events. More information is available on the website: *www.saskatchewaninmotion.ca/children*.

In August 2001, a provincial strategy entitled *A Physically Active Saskatchewan – A Strategy to Get Saskatchewan People in Motion* was developed by Saskatchewan Culture, Youth and Recreation in co-operation with Sask Sport Inc., Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, Saskatchewan Learning, and Saskatchewan Health. One of the actions identified in the strategy as requiring immediate attention was the establishment of a physical activity council.

The *Saskatchewan Physical Activity Council* (SPAC) was officially established in September 2003 to guide the development of physical activity initiatives and campaigns within the province. Provincial, Métis, and First Nations governments and several regional-provincial program delivery organizations and agencies are represented on the Council. The *Saskatchewan Physical Activity Council* has three strategic goals:

- promote physical activity through an active living and community relevant approach
- establish and implement new and innovative program strategies by working with traditional and non-traditional partners with an interest in physical activity
- raise the importance of physical activity on public agendas.

Practical and Applied Arts

With the completion of the Practical and Applied Arts (PAA) renewal, implementation of new programs continues to develop across the province. The spring workshops in Saskatoon attracted a large number of teachers indicating their interest in expanding or initiating course offerings. Middle Level teachers are enthusiastic about implementing the new requirements for Survey Courses where students will complete one 50-hour course in each of grades 7, 8, and 9.

The PAA provide more than 35 curricula with over a hundred options for Pure Courses and nearly limitless possibilities for Survey Courses. While students graduating from Saskatchewan high schools require at least 2 credits in PAA or Arts Education, the latest Secondary Level statistics show the average graduate completes between 5 and 6 PAA credits. This speaks to the popularity of the Practical and Applied Arts as top elective choices among high school students.

The latest articulation agreement between Saskatchewan Learning and SIAST allows students to earn post-secondary recognition for hours or modules related to particular courses taken in a Secondary school. Modules in Information Processing 10, 20, 30 can be used for articulation with standardized computer courses in 28 different SIAST programs. The details of the articulation of SIAST standardized computer curriculum courses can be found at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/docs/info_pro03/stuinfo.html*.

Recent changes made to the PAA recordkeeping section of the Student Data System make the recording of modules completed by students more efficient. It is expected that all schools will utilize the recordkeeping system for all PAA courses whether they are pure or survey, Middle or Secondary Level. There are numerous benefits of the system for students and teachers including tracking students who transfer, implementing articulation agreements, managing programs where instructors change over time, and providing a comprehensive record of learning for both students and parents.

Saskatchewan Learning continues to build partnerships within the province to enhance learning. Skills Canada Saskatchewan works to promote skilled trades and technologies as a first-choice career option and annually holds a provincial competition, supported by Saskatchewan Learning, with the gold medalists continuing on to the Canadian competition. The Saskatchewan Construction Safety Association (SCSA) provides its Construction Safety Training System at no cost. Students successfully completing the course can be certified by the SCSA. This certification is a requirement of such employers as the Cooperative Refinery Upgrade in Regina. Saskatchewan Learning is working with the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Certification Commission to enhance the opportunities for students to receive recognition of learning facilitated through the articulation agreements. Work is also progressing on the development of a Youth Apprenticeship Initiative that was piloted in two schools in 2004-05.

Information regarding curricula and implementation guidelines is available in the *Practical and Applied Arts Handbook* (2003) or

by contacting the Practical and Applied Arts Co-ordinator, Greg Lawrence at *glawrence@sasked.gov.sk.ca* or at (306) 787-6762. All the Practical and Applied Arts curricula and supporting documents can be found on the Saskatchewan Learning website at the following address: *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/evergreen/prac_arts.shtml*.

Career Development

Momentum is increasing at the international, national, and provincial levels to give students a better understanding of career development. Over the past decade, significant developments have occurred to bring about changes that require school systems to examine and review their delivery of career services and supports. The development of documents such as the *Blueprint for Life/Work Designs* and *Canadian Guidelines and Standards for Career Practitioners* are a strong foundation for making changes that will equip young people and those that provide services to them with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to meet the new challenges of the knowledge economy.

Saskatchewan Learning is using the *Blueprint* to make enhancements to provincial curricula that will help students and teachers become more aware of the career development competencies described in this resource.

Regional Career Development "Blueprint" workshops for 2005-06 are planned. Information on these workshops will be sent to schools in early fall and posted on the SaskNetWork website at *www.sasknetwork.ca*. The purpose of these workshops is to provide school personnel with a better understanding about the "Blueprint" career development competencies and to encourage the incorporation of these competencies into day-to-day activities in the school.

Lastly, a new factor has been added to the Foundation Operating Grant formula – an allocation of $10 per student for all Middle Level (grades 6-9) and Secondary Level (grades 10-12) students. This funding is to support school divisions in initiating or enhancing career development programming to assist students in preparing for the transition to post-secondary education or to work.

Driver Education

Driver Education is available through Interactive Televised Instruction on Saskatchewan's E-Learning Satellite Network. Students may be enrolled in Driver Education through the Saskatchewan Government Correspondence School for a fee of $60.00 per student. The program is delivered and broadcast from the Saskatoon Public School Division studio through the Saskatchewan Communications Network (SCN).

The implementation of The Graduated Driver's Licensing Program (GDL) comes into effect September 1, 2005. GDL is a staged introduction of new drivers into the driving environment where drivers gradually move into higher risk driving situations after gaining experience in lower risk situations. The program replaces the current Probationary Drivers Program, which provides new drivers with full driving privileges and takes action only after drivers are involved in collisions or convictions.

There are three stages to Saskatchewan's GDL Program – Learner, Novice 1, and Novice 2. As drivers pass through these stages, there are fewer restrictions until graduation to an experienced Class 5 driver's licence. If a new driver displays good driving experience and no incidents or interruptions, drivers graduate to a Class 5 licence in 18 months. Any incidents or interruptions delay graduation to an experienced licence. For more information, visit *www.sgi.sk.ca* or contact Saskatchewan Learning's Driver Education Assessment Co-ordinator, Terry Fryklund, at (306) 787-2334.

Science

Science 10

Following a piloting process involving almost 50 teachers, the revised Science 10 is entering a three-year implementation phase this fall. Teacher-leaders will facilitate Day One workshops in each region in September and October. Initial Day Two workshops and additional Day One workshops will take place in spring

2006. Please contact your Regional Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for registration information.

Teacher comments during the piloting process include:

- *I have learned to be more activity-based and get students hooked on science.*
- *Piloting is challenging, frustrating, fun, interesting, and a learning experience.*
- *I enjoyed seeing how a curriculum comes together.*
- *I am looking forward to the Weather Dynamics unit – it will be new for me and the students.*
- *Today I learned change can happen if you speak up.*

One common concern identified through the piloting process is the effect of the revised Science 10 on the current Science 8, 9, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics courses. There is the potential for gaps or overlaps in topics for some students until the renewal of these courses. Interim suggestions for adaptations to these courses will be released this fall along with the curriculum guide.

The key documents that support the revised curriculum, *Science 10: A Curriculum Guide for the Secondary Level* (2005), are *Science 10: A Bibliography* (2005), and *Science 10: An Information Bulletin (2005)*.

Science Curriculum Renewal

The Science 10 Reference Committee has expanded to become the K-12 Science Reference Committee in order to support the entire scope of K-12 science curriculum renewal. This committee now includes membership from the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, the Saskatchewan School Boards Association, and two high-school students along with nine teachers, and representatives from the League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, and the universities.

Writing of the renewed Science 6-9 curriculum is underway and will continue throughout the 2005-06 school year, followed by a field-testing phase. When that process is underway, renewal will begin with Science K-5, followed by Biology, Chemistry, and Physics at the Secondary Level.

All renewed science curricula will align with the Pan-Canadian Common Framework of Science Learning Outcomes, K to 12. This framework reflects the goal of developing scientific literacy for all students through a balance of Science, Technology, Society, and the Environment (STSE) skills, knowledge, and attitude foundational and related learning objectives. Student experiences in the renewed science courses should reflect a balance of:

- a science inquiry emphasis, in which students address questions about the nature of things, involving broad exploration as well as focused investigations
- a problem-solving emphasis, in which students seek answers to practical problems requiring the application of their science knowledge in new ways
- a decision-making emphasis, in which students identify questions or issues and pursue science knowledge that will inform the question or issue.

One of the key advantages of aligning with the Pan-Canadian framework is the availability of multiple key resources for each grade that have been developed to address these learning outcomes.

Social Sciences

Roots of Society

The instructional resource *Roots of Society*, developed specifically for Saskatchewan's Grade 9 Social Studies course, is still available through the Curriculum Distribution Service of Saskatchewan Learning. To order copies of *Roots of Society*, contact the Curriculum Distribution Service at (306) 787-5987 or by e-mail at *curriculum.orders@sasked.gov.sk.ca*.

Psychology Portal

The Psychology Portal, originally developed to support the Psychology 20 and Psychology 30 courses, is being updated and revised for the fall of 2005. The portal will have a new appearance, consistent with Saskatchewan Learning visual identity guidelines. As well, old links to non-functioning websites will be removed, and many websites will be linked directly into the electronic versions of the two Psychology curricula.

Aboriginal Education

Native Studies 20 Renewal

On December 9th and 10th, 2004, the Aboriginal Education Unit launched the renewal of its Native Studies 20 curriculum guide with a Dialogue event. Included in the event were Elders, an oskâpêwis (Elders' helper), consultants, teachers from provincial and First Nations schools, post-secondary representatives, Department of Learning personnel, and current Native Studies 20 students. A teacher has been seconded from a First Nation school to lead the renewal process. A two year pilot process will begin in the fall of

2006 with implementation scheduled for 2008.

Core Cree 10, 20, and 30

The Aboriginal Education Unit is leading the development of Core Cree 10, 20, and 30 curricula. Two Cree speaking writers have been contracted to write the curricula. The second year of the pilot will begin in the fall of 2005, with implementation scheduled for the winter of 2007. At that time, teachers will no longer need to create locally-developed courses.

Saskatchewan Government Correspondence School

This year, the Saskatchewan Government Correspondence School is celebrating its 80th anniversary. The Correspondence School remains steadfast in providing Saskatchewan students equal opportunity to quality, affordable, learner-centered, lifelong educational programs and services for learning anytime, anywhere.

The school offers enhanced technology services to all students, in both print-based and online courses, to expand the students' range of skills and knowledge in the use of technologies, and to help students maximize their potential as independent learners. The Correspondence School is committed to multi-mode course delivery using CDs, DVDs, videos, cassettes, kits, and online resources and courses to provide flexible, diverse learning environments. This flexibility of service, along with e-mail messages, bulletin board postings, chat conferences, and telephone and online tutoring, has proven to be the key to successful student experiences in distance learning.

Course Offerings

The Correspondence School offers more than 70 multi-mode courses in grades 9 to 12. In addition, 14 courses are offered online. Online course materials are prepared especially for this delivery format so that the unique strengths of computer hardware and software can be utilized. Correspondence School online course content is up-to-date, visibly reflects Saskatchewan Learning initiatives, and is delivered in an attractive, interactive, animated format. Student learning is strengthened and expanded as students explore the rich variety of resources through educationally sound, relevant links to the World Wide Web within Correspondence School online courses. Details about all Correspondence School courses and services are provided at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/elearning/correspondence/*.

New and Revised Courses and Resources

Several new courses are being offered through the Correspondence School, effective July 1, 2005. The description of the courses follow.

English Language A9

This year, the Correspondence School was pleased to work with the Curriculum and Instruction Branch of Saskatchewan Learning to develop an activity-rich English Language Arts A9 course based closely on the renewed curriculum and delivered in a distinctly Canadian context supported by interesting print, viewing, and audio materials. This well-structured course focuses on language learning and the development of communication and inquiry skills. It incorporates many First Nations texts and appeals to students through humour and connections to the world outside the classroom.

Native Studies 10 Online

This course, which is also available in multi-mode format, provides students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and cultural understanding about First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples through a variety of learning activities.

Thought-provoking discussion board topics allow students to interact with each other and their instructor. Links to interactive sites and sound clips bring many aspects of the Native Studies course

materials to life. Through entries in response journals, students are able to reflect on what they are learning about such topics as the successes and struggles of Aboriginal peoples, and about the philosophies which keep these cultures strong and alive.

Psychology 30

The developmental perspective of *Psychology 30* examines how people are continually developing, from infancy through old age. Researchers who study physical, cognitive, social/emotional, and spiritual changes throughout the human life cycle are profiled in this course. Through journaling, students are invited to research their own experiences as they relate to concepts and theoretical perspectives presented in the course. The students become engaged in learning about how people become the way they are through research projects and unit activities. Students are invited to use a variety of multimedia tools to present their research.

Two learning resources accompany the course: the DVD/video *Strength of Spirit: Three Years Later* that profiles three Saskatchewan youth and the characteristics of resiliency; and an audio CD that profiles the voices of various psychologists, early childhood educators, and researchers, and introduces various cultural perspectives about the stages of life such as prenatal, old age, and death.

English Language Arts A10 and B10

Extensive revisions to both English Language Arts A10 and B10 include changes to the reading selections and the writing activities. The themes from the curricula (Challenges and the Unknown in A10; Equality, Environment, and Decisions in B10) still guide the course design and expectations are complementary and consistent.

Inventive activities encourage students to speak, write, and represent thoughtfully, creatively, and effectively. As well, students practise other learning strategies with an engaging variety of listening and viewing selections.

Additional Resources

The Correspondence School strives to meet the changing technological capabilities of students. The School is pleased to offer viewing resources in both DVD and VHS formats and audio resources in both CD and cassette formats.

Official Minority Language Office (OMLO)

French Immersion

Elementary French Immersion Language Arts Renewal

As a result of the Western and Northern Canadian Protocol Common Framework and as a follow-up to the French Language Arts Curriculum Evaluation in 2003, curriculum renewal for this subject began in 2003-2004 at the Elementary Level. A consultative committee (comprised of teachers, school based administrators, and representatives from LEADS, Canadian Parents for French, and the BAC programme at the University of Regina) provided input and guidelines for renewal. Writing took place during the 2004-05 school year with some model units being piloted. There is a two year window for writing, piloting, and consultations and the renewed curriculum is scheduled to be presented to teachers starting in the fall of 2006 with professional support from OMLO. OMLO thanks the Consultative Committee members and pilot teachers who have approached the entire process with great interest, openness, honesty, and enthusiasm.

Support Document for the French Immersion Program

Teaching Students with Reading Difficulties and Disabilities: A Guide for Educators is presently being translated and adaptations will be made so the guide will meet the objectives and support second language practices of various French Immersion curricula. The intended audience is classroom teachers and resource room teachers. Content is intended to give teachers information on learning difficulties and disabilities, practical suggestions for adapting instruction, and tools to informally diagnose if a child is experiencing difficulty in a given domain. These informal tools may help a teacher decide if further intervention is required from specialists or if adaptations are working well. The steps that teachers, in conjunction with students and parents, need to take for further intervention are clearly defined. The French version of this guide is expected to be completed for the fall of 2006.

Intensive French

Intensive French is defined as an enrichment of the Core French program by the creation of a period of intensive exposure to French which enables students to receive, in one school year, up to four times the number of hours of instruction normally devoted to Core French. In the Intensive French program, students participate in a language development program, emphasizing many of the skills found in English Language Arts.

The Intensive French program is offered for a period of 5 months during the grade 6 year. During the

5 month period, instruction in French is carried out from 60% to approximately 75% of the daily instructional time. Subject instruction in English makes up the remaining daily instructional time. The school or school division decides which subjects will be continued in English. A correlation of the objectives of the Intensive French program is made with the English language curricula to ensure that the objectives of all subject areas are met by the end of the grade 6 year.

At the end of the 5 month period of intensive instruction, students return to a regular instructional pattern with the exception of an enriched Core French program aimed at maintaining and further developing second language skills.

Three years of the Intensive French program have been successfully completed in Saskatchewan. There are two classrooms participating at St. Augustine School and one classroom at St. George School in St. Paul's RCSSD in Saskatoon. The results have been extremely positive. Students have significantly increased their ability to communicate orally and in written French.

In the 2005-06 school year, the program is expanding to include one classroom in Moose Jaw and one classroom in Prince Albert.

Mieux-être 10

What's new in Wellness 10? The Wellness 10 curriculum guide has undergone a renewal process and is more useful and teacher friendly. The Wellness 10 curriculum has been implemented in English schools and is in the translation/ adaptation phase for the Immersion and Fransaskois schools. The translation and adaptation of the document should be completed by December 2005. The process of locating and evaluating French resources to support the document for French Immersion and Francophone teachers and students is ongoing.

Sciences M-12

The renewal of Science curricula is underway with Science 10 being completed. The process which involved teachers through every phase was very successful. The Pan-Canadian Framework was used as a foundation document and adaptations were made to respond to the needs of students in our province in French as well as in English. OMLO is participating in the renewal of Science curricula. Pilot testing was initiated in two French schools in the spring of 2004 and continued in the fall of 2004. Implementation will begin in the fall of 2005. Teachers in French Immersion and Fransaskois schools will participate in the implementation process using draft copies of the curriculum in French. Resources have been identified and a key resource in French is available. The adaptation of the curriculum for French language learners and the identification of resources both print and online is ongoing. Workshops and mentorships will continue to be offered throughout 2005-2006.

Mathématiques M-5

A lot of interest has been generated about mathematics around the province and the country. Current research suggests that a greater emphasis needs to be placed on numeracy, specifically mathematical language and number sense. Saskatchewan and the three other western provinces and three territories have been participating in the revision of the Common Curriculum Framework for Mathematics. Saskatchewan will initiate the renewal process for the elementary Mathematics curriculum (K to 5), in French and in English, in September 2005. OMLO will involve teachers at every phase of the renewal process.

Resources

Curriculum Distribution Service

The 2005-06 *Order Form for Curriculum Documents and Resources Produced by or for*

Saskatchewan Learning was distributed to all schools in April 2005. The order forms (English and French) are also available online at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/curriculum_distribution_service/index.shtml*. To order curriculum guides, bibliographies, daily registers, cumulative record folders, and other Saskatchewan Learning publications and resources, educators may contact:

Curriculum Distribution Service
Phone: (306) 787-5987
Fax: (306) 787-9747
E-mail: *curriculum.orders@sasked.gov.sk.ca*.
Mail: PO Box 650, REGINA SK S4P 3A3
Storefront: 4635 Wascana Parkway REGINA SK.

Educators are reminded that each provincially-funded school division is provided an annual credit allocation on account at the Curriculum Distribution Service. This credit allocation enables school divisions to obtain curriculum guides in both English and French **at no cost**.

Bibliographies

The following bibliographies of recommended learning resources were completed during the 2004-05 school year and are available on Saskatchewan Learning's website. With the exception of *A Selective Listing of Learning Resources* 2005, print copies of these bibliographies have been distributed to schools:

- *Calculus 30: A Bibliography*
- *Learning Resources Update 2004*
- *A Selective Listing of Learning Resources 2005.*

Please note that this edition of the selective listing replaces *A Selective Listing of Learning Resources 2004*. This 2005 document is posted on Saskatchewan Learning's website at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/curr_inst/iru/shortlist/index.html*. A print version can be purchased for $5.70, plus GST (Order no. 9967) from the Curriculum Distribution Service.

Teachers are encouraged to watch for the following four new bibliographies that will be available during the 2005-2006 school year:

- *English Language Arts: A Bibliography for the Middle Level (Grades 6-9).*
- *Learning Resources Update 2005.* This document will contain new learning resource listings to support all Kindergarten to Grade 12 curricula.
- *Science 10: A Bibliography.*
- *A Selective Listing of Learning Resources 2006.* This document will include learning resources that represent a starting point to support all Kindergarten to Grade 12 curricula.

With the exception of *A Selective Listing of Learning Resources 2006*, print copies of these bibliographies will be distributed to schools. All of these documents will be posted on Saskatchewan Learning's website at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/iru/onlbib.shtml*.

Digital Resources

Digital resources that support the Evergreen Curriculum can be found through a single access point related to each subject and grade area. Bibliographies, learning resource updates, full-text journals, curriculum-specific websites, videos, and general reference websites can all be found by accessing the major resource categories of "Print", "Digital", and "Video" at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/iru/onlbib.shtml*.

Online bibliographies provide an efficient search strategy by title, units of study, type of media, and publisher/distributor. The annual *Learning Resources Update* gives direct access to new titles that have been recommended in the subject or grade area being searched. The *Selective Listing of Learning Resources* provides efficient online access to high-quality resources that can be used as a starting point to support student achievement of curriculum objectives.

The curriculum-specific section of the URL Database, *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/pls/urldb/udb_pkg.main*, is a searchable database of websites that have been reviewed and recommended by Saskatchewan teachers. Each of these high-quality websites is linked directly to a corresponding learning objective within the curriculum. This database provides easy access to background information that supports lesson and unit planning. Searches for specific websites can also be combined with Core Curriculum initiatives such as Gender Equity or Aboriginal Content and Perspectives. To share your list of favourite sites with other teachers in the province, please select "user logon" to create an account.

By selecting "Full-Text Online Databases", easy access is provided to a wealth of information in many disciplines. Through a province-wide licence agreement, teachers and students have access to over 3,500 full-text journals and newspapers.

While the curriculum-specific portion of the URL Database provides access to specific websites that are directly linked to the curriculum, the General Reference Centre leads to quality sites that are larger in scope and support an entire curriculum. In addition to subject-

related websites, there is also access to reference tools such as atlases and encyclopedias, as well as information related to professional development, career development, and cross-curricula topics. Similar to the curriculum-specific websites, each of these sites has been reviewed and recommended as supporting the aims of the provincial curriculum.

To discover the videos that are available to support a curriculum, select the "Video Duplication" link. The Media Group catalogue, *videodb.mg.sk.ca/*, can be searched by title, series, and subject. These high-quality programs can be acquired for a nominal cost of $1.00 per program.

Recent Distributions of Materials to Schools

Celebrate Saskatchewan's Centennial: A Guide for Teachers

To assist teachers in highlighting the Centennial year with their students and involve them in learning more about Saskatchewan, the Department of Learning has prepared a booklet called *Celebrate Saskatchewan's Centennial: A Guide for Teachers*. A copy of the guide was sent to each K-12 teacher and can also be accessed on the Saskatchewan Learning website at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/iru/centennial*.

The guide provides suggestions for learning activities that can be carried out during the year, along with an indication of how they support specific curricula. The activities in the booklet are suitable for use in a variety of curriculum areas and grade levels. Teachers are encouraged to adapt the activities to meet instructional purposes and the needs of students.

Hot Stuff and the Kids: Happy Birthday Not Happy Burn Day

The Saskatchewan Professional Firefighters Association generously sponsored the production and distribution of *Hot Stuff and the Kids: Happy Birthday Not Happy Burn Day* to all Elementary Level schools in Saskatchewan. This animated video provides tips and ideas to reduce the risk of injury due to fires and heat. Hot Stuff, the fire cat, addresses a variety of fire- and burn-related concepts including the importance of smoke alarms and escape plans, and the dangers of matches and hot water. The stop, drop, and roll procedure is also emphasized, as well as safety in the kitchen. Additional copies of this video may be purchased from the Saskatchewan Professional Fire Fighters Association in VHS ($15.00) or DVD ($29.00) format at the following website: *www.spffaburnfund.ca*.

Looking Back: True Tales From Saskatchewan's Past

In honour of Saskatchewan's Centennial, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and Saskatchewan Learning collaborated in the production of a DVD entitled *Looking Back: True Tales From Saskatchewan's Past.* Originally broadcast on CBC television from 1999 to 2001, *Looking Back* is a series of 41 stories retelling events from Saskatchewan's dynamic history. Each true tale was filmed on location, often involving people connected with the incident in some way. Every school in the province received a free copy of this valuable resource as well as a list of curriculum correlations to support its use in the classroom. Copies are also available through the municipal library system.

Omar on Ice

Last November, Canadian Children's Book Centre and TD Bank Financial Group celebrated Canadian Children's Book Week by kindly contributing the book *Omar on Ice* to every Canadian Grade 1 student. The purposes of this annual book distribution are to inspire parents/caregivers to read to their children and to take them on excursions to the library.

National Research Council Canada

Last fall, for the fourth time, National Research Council Canada generously offered Saskatchewan high schools the poster entitled

Canadian Skies, the poster entitled *Periodic Table of the Elements*, the brochure entitled *Time After Time*, and the handout entitled *Periodic Table of the Elements*. These materials provide valuable curriculum support for the Secondary Level science programs being delivered in Saskatchewan schools. School staff may order copies of these learning resources from the order sheet that was distributed (provided sufficient quantities are available). For further information, educators may contact:

NRC Resource Materials
1200 Montreal Road
Bldg. M-58, Room S-319
OTTAWA ON K1A 0R6
Fax: (613) 952-9907
Website: *www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/elements*.

25 Saskatchewan Science Achievements

Saskatchewan Industry and Resources kindly supplied Saskatchewan high schools with two copies of the book entitled *25 Saskatchewan Science Achievements*. This excellent resource highlights Saskatchewan's scientists and researchers, and the impact of their achievements and ongoing research in science and technology. It features 25 short articles describing some of Saskatchewan's "firsts" in various fields including general research and development, agriculture, biotechnology, medical research, information technology, telecommunications, and energy. Each of the articles may be accessed online at *www.sk25.ca*. For additional print copies, educators may contact Saskatchewan Industry and Resources at (306) 787-9553.

Wild Rabbits and Hare, Big Rodents and Bear

Last fall, the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation kindly provided each Saskatchewan school with a visually appealing poster of wild rabbits and hares, big rodents, and bears. This is the fifth poster in the *Saskatchewan Native Wildlife Series*. This learning resource provides valuable support for several Saskatchewan science curricula units at various grade levels. To obtain more posters, educators may contact:

The Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
444 River Street West
MOOSE JAW SK S6H 6J6
Phone: (306) 692-8812
Fax: (306) 692-4370
E-mail: *sask.wildlife@sasktel.net*
Website: *www.swf.sk.ca*.

Curriculum Actualization

The provincial Curriculum Actualization Consultant provides support to school divisions to implement Core Curriculum. In addition to offering advice on school library development, the consultant also provides direction for both the implementation of resource-based, instructional approaches as well as the integration of technology.

Networking meetings for Curriculum and Resource-based Learning Consultants are held in Regina and Saskatoon in the fall and spring each year. These meetings are designed to provide an opportunity for consultants to focus on supporting curriculum actualization within their school divisions. Information about fall networking meetings and workshops that might be available will be distributed in the fall and posted online. Go to *www.centralischool.ca* and click on "Blackboard".

Saskatchewan Library Week – October 17-23, 2005

The theme this year for Saskatchewan Library Week will be "Rediscover Saskatchewan @Your Library". Louise Halfe, the newly appointed Poet Laureate for the province of Saskatchewan, will be the patron for Saskatchewan Library Week. A launch to celebrate Library Week is planned for Monday, October 17. Saskatchewan Library Week will coincide with Canadian Library Week. For the second year, all materials will be bilingual and the "My Favourite Book Contest" will be presented in French and English. Winners of the book contest will be announced on CBC Radio.

National School Library Day – October 24, 2005

National School Library Day, to be celebrated on the fourth Monday in October, was proclaimed by Roch Carrier, National Librarian of Canada, at the National School Library Summit held in Ottawa in June of 2003. The first National School Library Day was held on Monday, October 27, 2003. Last year, Minister of Learning, Andrew Thomson, received praise from across Canada when he proclaimed National School Library Day in Saskatchewan at the launch for Saskatchewan Library Week at the Legislative Library. The theme for National School Library Day this year is "Discover the Adventure".

School Library Standards

Saskatchewan Learning is planning to revise the standards for school libraries that were written in 1988

as the provincial guidelines for school library programs. A provincial reference committee will advise on the development of standards and other issues related to school libraries. The School Library Reference Committee will have representation from the various education partners. The committee will meet during the 2005-2006 school year to develop new standards for school library programs in the province.

Saskatchewan's Multitype Library System – Databases

The Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board continues to look for new materials to provide current information for all library users in the province. Some new products have been purchased this year including an on-line encyclopedia and another French language database. A list of online databases provided by the Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) follows:

The Gale Group (Infotrac)

- Business and Company Resource Center
- Business Index ASAP
- CPI.Q (Canadian Periodicals)
- Discovering Collection
- Expanded Academic ASAP
- General Business File ASAP
- General Reference Center
- General Reference Center Gold
- Health and Wellness Resource Center
- Health Reference Center Academic
- InfoTrac OneFile
- Junior Edition
- Kids InfoBits
- Kid's Edition
- LegalTrac
- Literature Resource Center
- Student Edition.

Micromedia ProQuest

- Canada Info Desk
  - Association Canada
  - Canadian Almanac Directory
  - Canadian Environmental Directory
  - Directory of Libraries in Canada
  - Financial Services in Canada
  - Governments Canada
- Canadian Newsstand Major Dailies
- Canadian Newsstand Prairies
- Canadian Research Index
- CBCA (Business, Current Events, Education and Reference)
- Encyclopedias
- Repère.

Online Training for the Databases

Database vendors are developing online training for users. These training resources can be viewed at the following websites:

The Gale Group

- Product Education: *www.gale.com/servlet/CSSubjectPageServlet?region=9&imprint=000*
  Gale provides product descriptions and several educational tools (e.g., navigation guides specific to each database).
- Online Training Guide: *access.gale.com/saskatchewan/*
  Powered by Brainshark, this site provides multimedia training guides for the MDLP. More contents will be added as they are produced.

Micromedia ProQuest

- Training Materials: *www.micromedia.ca/training_info/tr_index.htm*. This site offers training for a number of products.
- Online Workshop: *placeware.viewcentral.com/events/cust/calendar.asp?cid=proquest&pid=1*
  Users may register online for a scheduled one-hour online training session for ProQuest products. Alternatively, users may contact Tasha Maddison at (800) 387-2689, ext. 2241 or e-mail *tmaddison@micromedia.ca* to arrange an online training session.

Educators interested in the activities and the different initiatives offered by the Multitype Library Board can access the Saskatchewan Libraries website at *www.lib.sk.ca/announcements/index.html*.

Copyright

Photocopying Licence

The current Pan-Canadian school licence with Access Copyright, the Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency, expired August 31, 2004. The licence has been extended indefinitely, pending a ruling by the Copyright Board of Canada on a photocopy tariff. Updated information will be communicated to schools as soon as it is available.

Use of Music Recordings in Schools

The playing of copyright-protected music recordings for instructional activities **is allowed** under the Copyright Act, without payment of any fees.

If music recordings are played during **noninstructional** activities (e.g., at sporting events, as background music in the cafeteria or school halls), schools must enter into a licence with the Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers (SOCAN). For more information on the tariff being offered to educational institutions by SOCAN for the playing of music during noninstructional activities, contact *owenp@socan.ca*.

Recording of Television and Radio Programs

In March 2005, an information package entitled "Copyright Advisory for Educators" was distributed to all school division offices providing updated information on the Educational Rights Copyright Collective (ERCC) tariff that governs the taping and showing of radio and television programs and related recordkeeping requirements. Teachers should familiarize themselves with this tariff and its recordkeeping requirements when taping and using television or radio programs in the classroom.

Video Duplication Service

Saskatchewan Learning provides schools with access to a high-quality collection of educational video programs that are recommended as support for implementation of Saskatchewan curricula. This service is provided through Saskatchewan Learning's video duplication service provider, Media Group, in Saskatoon. Educators are encouraged to make use of the service as a way of building a curriculum-relevant educational video collection in their schools at a relatively low cost. All programs include public performance rights for classroom use.

Copies of the *Educational Video Duplication Service 2005-2006 Catalogue* will be sent to schools in the fall of 2005. These video titles are also listed in the online catalogue, which can be accessed through Saskatchewan Learning's website at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/evergreen/resources_main.shtml* or directly at *videodb.mg.sk.ca*. Programs can be duplicated onto video cassette, DVD, and CD-ROM. Duplication orders may be placed by phone, fax, e-mail, or through online ordering on the website. Ordering instructions can be found at the front of the catalogue or at the website address listed above.

School Telecasts

The school telecast schedule for 2005-2006 will be available online in the fall of 2005 at *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/curr_inst/iru/index.html*. The programs listed support Saskatchewan curricula and will be shown on the Saskatchewan Communications Network (SCN). Information on recommended grade levels and relevant curriculum areas is included.

K-12 programs are broadcast for two hours each school day from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Most of the programs can be obtained through the duplication centre at Media Group for use in Saskatchewan schools. If you have any questions about the programs or the duplication service, please contact Gail Saunders by phone at 787-6134 or by e-mail at *gsaunders@sasked.gov.sk.ca*.

Resource Centre

Do you require special education information? The Resource Centre provides research and lends resources to teachers, consultants, and assistants who work with students who have special needs. If you need information on autism, on educating students who are hard of hearing or who have perceptual disabilities, or on any other special education topics, contact the Resource Centre.

The Resource Centre:

- has access to several educational databases that contain full-text periodicals of authoritative resources; a list of these full-text online periodicals is available at the Resource Centre's website: *jt7kl8zh6c.search.serialssolutions.com*
- has the most comprehensive professional collection in the province on educating students with perceptual disabilities
- has reference books on rare diseases and syndromes
- has an online catalogue of titles in the collection including special education materials: *http://inetsrv.sasked.gov.sk.ca/webopac/cgi/swebmnu.exe?act=3&ini=splusweb*; individuals working in special education can request materials directly through the online catalogue
- has kits such as the tactile stimulation kit and lightboxes
- has a comprehensive collection on autism and Asperger Syndrome
- has large print, Braille, audio books, and e-texts for students with perceptual disabilities
- produces an annual Alternate Format Catalogue of Braille, audio, large print, e-text, and kits for students with perceptual

disabilities; refer to: *www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/curr/resource_centre/alternate format/alternate_format_catalogue_page.shtml*

- has resources on learning Braille
- has books on augmentative communication
- has resources on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- has materials on behavioural disorders
- produces large print, Braille, and e-text resources
- has access to information not available in the Resource Centre through interlibrary loans.

Please contact the Resource Centre for any special education resource queries by telephone: (306) 787-5998, fax: (306)787-3164, or e-mail: *ebasler@sasked.gov.sk.ca*.

Core Curriculum Actualization: Curriculum Design, Implementation, and Renewal

School Year	***Curriculum Design (Indicates projects under development)***	***Curriculum Implementation (Indicates 1st year of 3-year implementation phase)***	***Curriculum Renewal (Indicates year of availability of materials or professional development)***
2002-03	Arts Education K-9 Calculus 30 Wellness 10 Machining 10, 20, 30 Career and Work Exploration 10, 20, A30, B30 Entrepreneurship 30 Information Processing 10, 20, 30 Accounting 10, 20, 30 Photographics 10 Photography and Graphic Arts 20, 30 Science 10	Native Studies 10 Psychology 20, 30 Law 30 Energy and Mines 10, 20, 30 Horticulture 10, 20, 30	Resource-based Learning K-12 Mathematics K-12 Health Education 6-9 English Language Arts K-5 Psychology 20/30 Portal *Early Literacy* Resource *Classroom Curriculum Connections*
2003-04	Arts Education K-9 Field Crop Production 10, 20, 30 Beef Production 10, 20, 30 Sheep Production 10, 20, 30 Cow/Calf Production 10, 20, 30 Pork Production 10, 20 Feedlot Production 10, 20, 30 Machining 10, 20, 30 Entrepreneurship 30 Science 10 Calculus 30 Wellness 10 Spanish 10, 20, 30	Information Processing 10, 20, 30 Accounting 10, 20, 30 Career and Work Exploration 10, 20, A30, B30 Photographics 10 Photography and Graphic Arts 20, 30	Resource-based Learning K-12 Mathematics K-12 Health Education 6-9 English Language Arts K-5 Psychology 20/30 Portal *Early Literacy* Resource *Classroom Curriculum Connections*
2004-05	Arts Education K-9 Science 10 Spanish 10, 20, 30 Common Essential Learnings Objectives – Critical and Creative Thinking (CCT) and Personal and Social Development (PSD)	Machining 10, 20, 30 Field Crop Production 10, 20, 30 Beef Production 10, 20, 30 Sheep Production 10, 20, 30 Cow/Calf Production 10, 20, 30 Pork Production 10, 20 Feedlot Production 10, 20, 30 Entrepreneurship 30 Calculus 30	Resource-based Learning K-12 Mathematics K-12 Health Education 6-9 English Language Arts K-5 Psychology 20/30 Portal Wellness 10 *Early Literacy* Resource *Classroom Curriculum Connections*
2005-06	Arts Education 6-9 Health Education K-5 Mathematics K-5 English Language Arts 6-9 Science 6-9 Kindergarten	Arts Education K-5 Spanish 10, 20, 30 Science 10	Resource-based Learning K-12 Mathematics K-12 Workshops Math Companion Documents (Grades 1-2) Health Education 6-9 *Classroom Curriculum Connections* Psychology 20/30 Portal Ukrainian Portal Wellness 10 *Early Literacy* Resource Common Essential Learnings Objectives (CCT, PSD)